## ORIGINAL



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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

Arizona Corporation Commission

DOCKETED

APR 3 0 2007

**DOCKETED BY** 



**COMMISSIONERS** 

MIKE GLEASON, Chairman WILLIAM A. MUNDELL JEFF HATCH-MILLER

AZ CORP COMMISSION DOCUMENT CONTROL

2007 APR 30+P 4: 48

KRISTIN K. MAYES **GARY PIERCE** 

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IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF HASSAYAMPA UTILITIES COMPANY, INC. FOR A CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY.

Docket No. SW-20422A-05-0659

MOTION FOR EXTENSION **OF TIME** 

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Hassavampa Utility Company, Inc. ("HUC") received its Certificate of Convenience and Necessity from the Commission in Decision No. 68922 (August 29, 2006). The Certificate involves the Hassayampa Ranch development, which is being developed by Hassayampa Ranch Ventures, LLC. The decision requires HUC to file the following items:

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A Maricopa County Association of Governments ("MAG") 208 Plan (1) Amendment to provide wastewater service to our Hassayampa Ranch development. (Due April 30, 2007);

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Approval to Construct ("ATC") from the Maricopa County Environmental (2) Services Department ("MCESD"). (Due July 31, 2007);

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Approval of Construction ("AOC") from MCESD. (Due April 30, 2008); and (3)

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Aquifer Protection Permit ("APP") and / or Arizona Pollutant Discharge (4) Elimination System ("AZPDES") permit from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality ("ADEQ"). (Due April 20, 2008)

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The ATC, AOC and APP cannot be issued until the 208 plan amendment is approved. HUC has encountered unexpected delay in obtaining the 208 plan amendment, and therefore requests that all four deadlines be extended by one year each.

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Because the property is located in unincorporated Maricopa County, MCESD must sponsor the 208 to MAG before MAG will further consider it. The sponsor typically must also request a

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"letter of no objection" from any municipality within three miles of the proposed 208 service area. For Hassavampa Ranch, this request was made to the Town of Buckeye.

MCESD, Hassayampa Ranch Ventures, L.L.C., and HUC attempted repeatedly to obtain a no objection letter from the Town of Buckeye. But Buckeye refused to issue such a letter and ultimately issued an objection letter late last summer. This objection was based on Hassayampa Ranch's decision to not be annexed into the Town.

At that time, MCESD was not ready to sponsor the original HUC MAG 208 Plan Amendment (dated September 30, 2005) without Buckeye's support. HUC was coincidentally in a position to expand and regionalize their 208 Plan Amendment to include Belmont and 339th Avenue developments. With MCESD's input, HUC submitted a new 208 Plan Amendment in October 2006, which consolidated HUC's Hassayampa Ranch service area with these other developments into the HUC Northeast 208 Plant Amendment (HUC NE 208). As of February 27, 2007, HUC has MCESD sponsorship, despite Buckeye's repeated objections, of the HUC NE 208. A copy of the MCESD sponsorship letter is attached as Exhibit A. HUC is now working with MAG to prepare a final draft version to be brought to the public and MAG committees. A copy of HUC's Revised March 2007, Section 208 plan amendment application is being provided directly to Staff's engineering section for their review.

HUC anticipates obtaining local approval with MAG by September 2007. Then, HUC hopes to have ADEO certification by October 2007. The HUC NE 208 would then be sent to EPA, which has 120 days to review. If these milestones are achieved, the HUC NE 208 will be fully approved in February 2008. Once the 208 is obtained, the ATC, AOC and APPs can be processed which can take 12-15 months. Accordingly, HUC requests that the Commission grant the following extensions:

samasad Dua Date

	Item	Proposed Due Date
(1)	MAG 208	April 30, 2008
(2)	ATC	July 31, 2008
(3)	AOC	April 30, 2009

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1	(4)	APP and / or AZPDES	April 30, 2009			
2	RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 30 <sup>th</sup> day of April 2007.					
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4			ROSHKA DEWULF & PATTEN, PLC			
5						
6			By Muy Jegler			
7			Michael W. Patten Timothy J. Sabo			
8			One Arizona Center 400 East Van Buren Street, Su			
9			Phoenix, Arizona 85004			
10		nal + 13 copies of the foregoing this 30 <sup>th</sup> day of April 2007, with:				
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12	ll	et Control DNA CORPORATION COMMISSION				
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14		es of the foregoing hand-delivered	9.1			
15	Copie this 3	mailed				
16	Lyn A	A. Farmer, Esq. Administrative Law Judge				
17	Heari	ng Division ona Corporation Commission				
18	1200	West Washington nix, Arizona 85007				
19	Chris	topher C. Kempley, Esq.				
20	Chief	Counsel, Legal Division on Corporation Commission				
21	1200	West Washington nix, Arizona 85007				
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23	Direc	et G. Johnson, Esq. etor, Utilities Division				
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25	Phoe	nix, Arizona 85007				
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400 East Van Buren Street, Suite 800



## Maricopa County

Environmental Services Department Water and Waste Management Division

1001 N Central Ave, Suite 150 Phoenix, Arizona 85004 Phone: (602) 506-6666 Fax: (602) 506-6925 TDD: (602) 506-6704 www.maricopa.gov/envsvc

February 27, 2007

Maricopa Association of Governments 302 North 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Suite 300 Phoenix, AZ 85003

Attention:

Ms. Lindy Bauer, Environmental Director

Re:

Global Water Resources, HUC Northeast Service Area

Clean Water Act, MAG 208 Amendment

## Dear Ms. Bauer:

In a letter dated February 22, 2007, Global Water submitted revisions to its 208 Water Quality Management Plan Amendment Application, HUC Northeast Service Area, prepared by DSWA, October 2006, to Maricopa County Environmental Services Department (Department). The application proposes four water reclamation facilities (WRF) to serve a 65.6-square mile service area that includes the Belmont, Hassayampa Ranch, 339<sup>th</sup> Avenue Project, and other developments that extend from the CAP canal southward to Salome Highway and from the Hassayampa River westward to Wintersburg Road. The four WRF are:

WRF No.	Location	Approximate WRF Size (acres)	Ultimate Capacity (MGD) <sup>1</sup>	Starting Year <sup>1</sup>
1	North of Indian School Rd., east of 331st Ave. SEC 22, T2N, R5W	19.75 with 10.1 optional acres	3.0 (10.0 with the optional acres)	2008
	North of Buckeye Rd., west of 339 <sup>th</sup> Ave. SEC 8, T1N, R5W	-29.3	10.0	2008
3	North of Thomas Rd., east of 355th Ave. SEC 30, T2N, R6W	24.0	12.0	2012
4	North of Camelback Rd., west of 363 <sup>rd</sup> Ave. SEC 14, T2N, R6W	31.2	14.0	2015

WRF 3 & 4 may initially be constructed as lift stations that convey flow to WRF's that are underutilized

In accordance with the MAG Water Quality Management Plan, Section 4.4 (MAG 208 Amendment Process), this document was submitted to the Department for review and sponsorship, since the facility is located within an unincorporated area of Maricopa County, outside of any municipal planning area.

Based on a review of the proposed MAG 208 Amendment, the Department has determined that the proposed MAG 208 Amendment is acceptable and complies with the MAG 208 Areawide Water Quality Management Plan. The proposed WRF do not conflict with Maricopa County plans for the area.

1001 N Central Ave, Suite 150 Phoenix, Arizona 85004 Phone: (602) 506-6666 Fax: (602) 506-6925 TDD: (602) 506-6704 www.maricopa.gov/envsvc February 27, 2007 Global Water Resources, HUC Northeast Service Area

The facilities are located within three miles of the Town of Buckeye municipal planning area. The Town has provided a letter to the Department (attached), dated February 15, 2007, stating that the Town objects to the Global Water MAG 208 Amendment application due to significant concerns.

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The HUC Northeast Service Area is located within the Lower Hassayampa Sub-basin aquifer. The Lower Hassayampa Sub-basin Hydrologic Study and Computer Model, (Brown and Caldwell, November 15, 2006) predicts that groundwater levels in the sub-basin will be significantly impacted unless all approved, committed, and pending developments recharge effluent equal to at least 30% of their total water use. The HUC application states that reclaimed water will be used as the primary source of irrigation water and for use in any recreational impoundments. It does not identify the percentage of reclaimed water that will be recharged.

Please note that the Department has not reviewed, nor approved, the design of the facilities as part of the 208 review. Any technical issues that remain will need to be resolved during the design phase of the project. Approval to Construct (ATC) and Approval of Construction (AOC) must be obtained from this Department prior to start of construction and startup, respectively, of all treatment, discharge, recharge, and reuse facilities, including all conveyance facilities and final end user facilities.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at 506-6667.

Sincerely,

Kevin Chadwick, P.E.

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Manager, Water and Waste Management Division

cc: John Power, P.E., Director, Environmental Services Department
 Dale G. Bodiya, P.E., Manager, Treatment Plant Program
 Christine Close, P.E., Damon S. Williams, Associates
 Robin Bain, P.E., Manager, Permits, Global Water Resources
 David Wilcox, Town Manager, Town of Buckeye
 Utilities Division - Engineering Section, Arizona Corporation Commission
 File





## Town of Buckeye

100 North Apache Road, Buckeye, AZ 85326.

February 15, 2007

Mr. Kenneth James, P.E., Senior Civil Engineer Maricopa County Environmental Services Department 1001 N. Central Avenue, Suite #150 Phoenix, AZ 85004

RE: Hassayampa Utility Company (Global Water) Northeast Service Area Application for Amendment to MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan (Damon S. Williams Associates, October 9, 2006).

Dear Mr. James:

The Town of Buckeye (the Town) has reviewed the referenced application for a Clean Water Act Section 208 Amendment. The application seeks approval of a service area for the Belmont and Hassayampa Ranch developments and sets forth Global Water's plans for water and wastewater. The Town has significant concerns that are summarized herein and, as a result, the Town objects to the application submitted by Global Water.

Since the initial application by Global Water, an extensive hydrologic study of the Lower Hassayampa Sub-Basin (Brown and Caldwell, November 15, 2006) has been completed. The study demonstrates the critical need for the water resources of the area to be managed on a regional scale to ensure that sustainable water supplies are available to all planned future developments in the Lower Hassayampa Sub-basin and the contiguous areas of the West Salt River Valley Sub-basin.

The Town is concerned that decisions made by Global Water to benefit one portion of the Lower Hassayampa Sub-basin (the Belmont and Hassayampa Ranch developments) may have negative consequences affecting water supplies in other areas of the Sub-basin.

Additionally, the Town is concerned that Global Water's priority is to sell the reclaimed water for profit rather than a priority of requiring recharge in critical areas. Global Water's application checklist states that "a reclaimed water distribution system is planned to return reclaimed water to the development projects for use in recreational lakes and landscape irrigation." The checklist also states that "class A+ reclaimed water is distributed and sold to its many users who in turn compensate the Company for its treatment and delivery costs in accordance with tariff rates promulgated by the [Arizona Corporation Commission]." The Belmont development's Application for an Analysis of

an Assured Water Supply submitted to the Arizona Department of Water Resources indicated that effluent will be used directly on golf courses (six golf courses are planned for the Belmont development) and the Application did not indicate that effluent would be recharged and recovered by pumping for future water supplies. Groundwater recharge (not just reuse) is a priority of the Town, which is evidenced by an ordinance passed by the Town on November 7, 2006 that requires reuse and recharge of reclaimed water. The ordinance applies to all lands within the corporate limits and planning area of the Town. On the other hand, Global Water's application indicates that "reclaimed water in excess of reuse demand can be recharged..." and the application adds that "seasonally, as directed by demand, excess reclaimed water will be recharged to the aquifer under an [aquifer protection permit] and will be stored for credit via an Underground Storage Facility (USF) permit. As a last resort, reclaimed water may be discharged to ephemeral washes." The Town has concerns that excess reclaimed water may only be available during cool, wet weather and that recharge will infrequently be conducted by Global Water. Furthermore, the Town feels that discharge to washes would not be necessary as a last resort, if adequate recharge facilities were planned.

Finally, the recharge facilities proposed by Global Water are all located at the proposed water reclamation facilities, which are in the southern one-half of the Belmont and Hassayampa Ranch development area and not in the northern portion of the area where recharge will be most needed. The Belmont development area will be one of the first areas in the Sub-basin to experience an excessive groundwater level decline (due to shallow bedrock and a limited aquifer thickness), if recharge is not conducted in the critical areas.

For all of the foregoing reasons, the Town urges the denial of Global Water's referenced application.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Ron Whitler, R.G. at (623) 349-6822.

Sincerely,

David W. Wilcox

Town Manager

cc:

Julie Hoffman, Maricopa Association of Governments Trevor Hill, Global Water Resources Sheila Schmidt, Gust Rosenfeld Town Council